# Message Text

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TOSEC 066

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)
SUBJECT: TRAVELING MEDIA REPORT: COMBINED RADIO, WIRES, NEWSPAPERS, FEBRUARY 11, MORNING

FOR AMBASSADOR ANDERSON FROM S/PRS

NO. 5

SUMMARY: WIRES REPORT HAK HAD PRIVATE BREAKFAST WITH RABIN FOLLOWED BY US-ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM SESSION WITH ALLON REPORTING TALKS VERY PRODUCTIVE. KALB SAYS ISRAELIS NOW COVET GENEVA. NEWSPAPERS REPORT HAK ARRIVAL ISRAEL TO OPEN TALKS ON SINAI ACCORD.

## WIRES/RADIO

1. AP (AP-SCHWEID-JERUSALEM): HAK PLANNED A FULL DAY OF TALKS TODAY WITH ISRAELI LEADERS AS HE PRESSED HIS SEARCH FOR COMMON GROUND BETWEEN THEM AND THE EGYPTIANS.

HAK ARRIVED MONDAY TO BEGIN HIS LATEST ME PEACE SHUTTLE. HE AND PREMIER RABIN WERE TO BREAKFAST TOGETHER AND THEN UNCLASSIFIED

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SIT DOWN FOR A FULL WORKING SESSION WITH THEIR ADVISERS.

THE SECRETARY OF STATE MET RABIN AND AN ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAM FOR ALMOST TWO HOURS MONDAY FOR WHAT BOTH SIDES DESCRIBED AS A "GENERAL REVIEW" OF POSITIONS. AN ISRAELI

SPOKESMAN SAID THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING WAS TO AGREE ON AN AGENDA FOR FUTURE NEGOTIATIONS, AND "NO SPECIFICS WERE DISCUSSED."

HAK'S TASK IS TO FIND OUT HOW MUCH ADDITIONAL EGYPTIAN TERRITORY IN THE SINAI DESERT THE ISRAELIS ARE WILLING TO GIVE UP IN A SECOND DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT AND WHAT POLITICAL CONCESSIONS THEY DEMAND IN EXCHANGE.

HE TOLD NEWSMEN WITH HIM ON THE FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON TO JERUSALEM THAT HE HAD NO "FORMAL PROPOSAL" FROM EITHER SIDE BUT DID HAVE "IDEAS FROM EGYPT AND IDEAS FROM ISRAEL."

"I'M HERE TO DISCUSS SUCH IDEAS," HE SAID.

EGYPT WANTS ISRAEL TO GIVE UP THE MITLA AND GIDI PASSES THROUGH WHICH GROUND FORCES MUST PASS TO REACH THE CENTRAL SINAI AND THE SUEZ CANAL AS WELL AS THE ABU RUDEIS OIL-FIELDS IN THE SOUTHERN SINAI.

U.S. OFFICIALS HAVE SAID KISSINGER RECOGNIZES THAT ISRAEL IN EXCHANGE MUST GET CONCRETE CONESSIONS TOWARD AN END TO POLITICAL, DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC BELLIGERENCY ...

2. UPI (UPI-JERUSALEM): HAK MET WITH A TEAM OF ISRAELI NEGOTIATORS TODAY TO WORK OUT A NEW TROOP WITH-DRAWAL AGREEMENT IN THE SINAI DESERT.

HAK FIRST SHARED A 90-MINUTE PRIVATE BREAKFAST WITH RABIN, THEN THE FULL U.S. AND ISRAELI NEGOTIATING TEAMS MET FOR TWO AND A HALF HOURS FOR TALKS THE SECRETARY CALLED "VERY FULL AND (GARBLED ON WIRE)..." ALLON SAID AFTERWARD: "OUR REAL TALKS STARTED THIS MORNING. WE DISCUSSED REAL PROBLEMS OF A POSSIBLE REVIVAL AND RENEWAL OF THE POLITICAL MOMENTUM IN THE AREA. I REALLY THINK THAT THE UNCLASSIFIED

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TALKS WERE VERY PRODUCTIVE."

ISRAELI GOVERNMENT SOURCES SAID THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE CONDUCTED IN GENERAL TERMS, TAKING UP TRENDS AND DIRECTIONS OF A POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN-ISRAEL DISENGAGEMENT ACCORD IN THE SINAI.

IN CAIRO, DIPLOMATIC SOURCES SPELLED OUT WHAT EGYPT

WANTS FROM ANY TROOP WITHDRAWAL AGREEMENT WITH ISRAEL AND WHAT IT IS READY TO GIVE UP.

THEY SAID SADAT CONTINUES TO INSIST THAT ISRAELI TROOPS MUST LEAVE THE STRATEGIC MITLA AND GIDDI PASSES EAST

OF THE SUEZ CANAL AS WELL AS THE ABU RODEIS OILFIELDS.

IN RETURN FOR THE ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS, THE SOURCES SAID, EGYPT IS READY TO REDUCE TROOP CONCENTRATIONS IN SOME AREAS AND IMPOSE COMPLETE DEMILITARIZATION IN THE AREAS EVACUATED BY ISRAEL.

ALSO, EGYPT WOULD AGREE TO PUT THE PASSES UNDER THE CONTROL OF THE UN EMERGENCY FORCES IN A BUFFER ZONE BETWEEN EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI FRONTLINES, THEY SAID.

OTHER CONCESSIONS WOULD INCLUDE A REOPENING OF THE SUEZ CANAL TO INTERNATIONAL SHIPPING, PROVIDING THE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL FROM THE WESTERN EDGE OF THE SINAI PENINSULA LEAVES THE WATERWAY BEYOND THE REACH OF THEIR GUNS.

3. CBS (KALB, RADIO-FIRST LINE REPORT, JERUSALEM): THE ISRAELIS WHO ONCE FEARED GENEVA NOW COVET GENEVA.

NOT MANY MONTHS AGO, THE ISRAELIS SHIVERED AT THE VERY THOUGHT OF GENEVA - A RECONVENED CONFERENCE CONJURED UP VISIONS OF PRESSURE, SELL-OUT, IMPOSED SETTLEMENT OR WORSE. NOW, ODDLY, AN INCREASING NUMBER OF ISRAELIS ARE BEGINNING TO PUSH FOR GENEVA. THERE ARE SEVERAL REASONS.

FIRST, THEY ARE WORRIED, APPARENTLY, ABOUT HAK'S STEP-BY-UNCLASSIFIED  $\,$ 

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STEP APPROACH CONSIDERING THIS SALAMI TACTICS, A PIECE-MEAL SHRINKAGE OF ISRAELI TERRORORIAL SECURITY. WHAT THEY ASK, DO THEY GET OUT OF GIVING OCCUPIED ARAB LAND BACK TO THE ARABS? NOTHING, THEY ARGUE. SECOND, THEY ARE BECOMING DISENCHANTED WITH KISSINGER, BELIEVING AS ONE RIGHT-WIND AUTHOR PUT IT YESTERDAY, THAT "HE IS NOT THE MAGICIAN ANYMORE, HE COMES TO ISRAEL WITH A LONG LIST OF FAILURES." THIRD, SOME ISRAELI POLITICIANS GENUINELY BELIEVE THAT IT IS TIME TO PUT THE ARABS TO THE TEST. THE ARABS HAVE BEEN CALLING FOR A QUICK RETURN TO GENEVA. FINE, LET US RETURN, LET US SEE WHAT HAPPENS. FOR ALL THREE REASONS THEN, MANY ISRAELIS, INCLUDING THE DEFENSE MINISTER OF ISRAEL, HAVE COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT GENEVA MAKES MORE SENSE AT THIS TIME THAN ANOTHER DEAL IN THE SINAI THAT WOULD RESULT IN THE LOSS OF MORE OF THE

ISRAELI BUFFER, BUT WILL NOT GUARANTEE AN ADDITIONAL YARD OF SECURITY. THE ISRAELIS SAY ALMOST RHETORICALLY THESE DAYS, A PIECE OF PEACE FOR A PIECE OF TERRITORY.

THE AMERICANS, HAK AMONG THEM, HAVE NO QUARREL WITH THAT IDEA EXCEPT THAT THEY THINK IT IMPRACTICAL: THEY THINK THE ARABS WILL NOT BUY IT. THEY ARE OF THE OPINION THAT

IT IS EASY TO RETURN TO GENEVA THOUGH HARD TO GET SOME-THING OUT OF GENEVA. THE FIRST TOPIC OF CONVERSATION THERE WILL BE THE PALESTINIANS, THEIR ROLE, THEIR FUTURE, THEIR REPRESENTATION. AS FAR AS THE ARABS ARE CONCERNED. THE PLO REPRESENTS ALL OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND THE PLO MUST BE DEALT WITH. BUT THE AMERICANS AND THE ISRAELIS HAVE REFUSED TO DEAL WITH THE PLO DIRECTLY UNTIL THE PLO RECOGNIZES ISRAEL'S RIGHT TO EXIST. UP TO THIS POINT, THE PLO HAS DONE LITTLE MORE THAN PLEDGE ITSELF TO THE ULTIMATE DESTRUCTION OF ISRAEL. UNTIL THE PLO DROPS THAT RHETORICAL STANCE, THE ISRAELIS SAY IT WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE TO DEAL WITH THAT TERRORIST ORGANIZATION. THE AMERICANS SHARE THE VIEW, THAT OR IF THE GENEVA CONFERENCE IS RECONVENED, AND IT QUICKLY STALE-MATES ON THE QUESTION OF REPRESENTATION, WHAT THEN? DM PERES MIGHT BELIEVE THAT THE ENSUING STALEMATE IS A GOOD THING, BUYING TIME FOR ISRAEL UP UNTIL AND PERHAPS THROUGH THE 1976 AMERICAN ELECTIONS. BUT A STALEMATE IS UNCLASSIFIED

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USEFUL ONLY IF ALL SIDES AGREE THAT IT IS USEFUL. IF ONE SIDE THINKS THAT A STALEMATE IS BAD THEN IT CAN ONLY LEAD TO A WORSENING OF RELATIONS AND PROBABLY THE OUTBREAK OF WAR AND WITH THAT THE ONSLAUGHT OF ANOTHER OIL EMBARGO. SO GENEVA, IF ALL ELSE FAILS. KISSINGER THINKS THE ODDS ARE BETTER THAN FIFTY-FIFTY HOWEVER, THAT THE CURRENT NEGOTIATIONS WILL SUCCEED.

#### NEWSPAPERS

1. NYTIMES-GWERTZMAN - PAGE 1 - 3-COLUMN AP PIC OF HAK WITH RABIN AND PERES CAPTION BEFORE WORKING DINNER. LEAD - HAK OPENS TALKS ON SINAI ACCORD. SUB-HAK SAYS BOTH SIDES HAVE SUBMITTED QUOTE IDEAS END QUOTE ON INTERIM AGREEMENT. BEGIN TEXT: HAK BEGAN TALKS TONIGHT WITH ISRAELI LEADERS IN AN EFFORT TO RECONCILE EGYPTIAN AND ISRAELI VIEWS ON ACHIEVING A NEW INTERIM AGREEMENT IN THE SINAI PENINSULA.

WITHIN HOURS OF HIS ARRIVAL, HAK AND HIS TOP AIDES HAD A WORKING DINNER WITH RABIN AND OTHER ISRAELI LEADERS TO DISCUSS THE GAP THAT HAS SO FAR BLOCKED A SECOND-STAGE ACCORD BETWEEN EGYPT AND ISRAEL ...

OVERALL IMPLICATIONS: TONIGHT, HAK AND THE ISRAELI LEADERS DECIDED TO TALK ABOUT THE OVER-ALL STRATEGIC IMPLICATIONS FOR THE ME OF THE ISRAELI-EGYPTIAN NEGOTIATIONS-THE IMPACT OF A SUCCESSFUL OUTCOME WOULD HAVE ON MOVEMENTS TOWARD AN EVENTUAL PEACE SETTLEMENT AND THE RISKS OF A POSSIBLE OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING THAT A FAILURE MIGHT PROVOKE.

HAK REPORTEDLY STRESSED HIS CONCERN THAT THE GENEVA CONFERENCE ON THE ME BE RECONVENED AFTER A SUCCESSFUL NEGOTIATION SO THAT THE CONFERENCE COULD SERVE TO BRING ABOUT FUTHER STEPS TOWARD PEACE.

THERE IS CONCERN IF THE CONFERENCE WERE RESUMED AFTER A FAILURE OF THE CURRENT NEGOTIATION, IT WOULD SERVE AS A FORUM FOR CHARGES AND COUNTERCHARGES ABOUT WHO WAS TO BLAME FOR THE STALEMATE.

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NO FORMAL PROPOSALS: DURING THE 13-HOUR FLIGHT FROM WASHINGTON, HAK TOLD NEWSMEN ABOARD THE AIR FORCE BOEING 707 THAT HE HAD NOT RECEIVED ANY FORMAL PROPOSALS FROM ISRAEL OR EGYPT ON A NEW AGREEMENT. BUT HE SAID HE HAD RECEIVED "IDEAS" FROM BOTH SIDES THAT HE INTENDED TO DISCUSS WITH THEM DURING THIS PART OF THE TRIP. THIS WAS HAK'S FIRST ACKNOWLEDGEMENT THAT HE WAS CARRYING SOMETHING FROM SADAT. ISRAELI OFFICIALS HAVE SAID THAT WHILE THEY HAD MADE SOME IMFORMAL PROPOSALS TO HAK, THE EGYPTIANS HAD NOT PASSED ON ANYTHING. CAIRO, IN TURN, HAS INSISTED PUBLICLY THAT IT HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY ISRAELI PROPOSALS.

IN HIS DISCUSSIONS WITH THE ISRAELI LEADERS, HAK ALSO INTENDS TO INFORM THEM THAT THE U.S. BELIEVES THAT SYRIA HAS CHANGED HER POSITION AND IS NOW WILLING TO CONSIDER ANOTHER INTERIM ACCORD WITH ISRAEL ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS

HAK IS NOT SURE WHETHER THE ISRAELIS ARE READY TO HOLD TALKS WITH THE SYRIANS BECAUSE OF POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO ANY FURTHER TERRITORIAL CONCESSIONS ON THE GOLAN HEIGHTS. BUT BY DROPPING OUTRIGHT OPPOSITION TO STEPBY-STEP TALKS, SYRIA WAS BELIEVED TO BE MAKING IT EASIER FOR MR. SADAT TO DEAL WITH THE ISRAELIS.

EGYPT HAS BEEN WARY OF SEEMING TO BE NEGOTIATING ALONE WITH ISRAEL.

THE WHOLE HAK APPROACH TO NEGOTIATING HAS COME UNDER INCREASING CRITICISM AND SKEPTICISM HERE, WITH SOME POLITICAL LEADERS SUCH AS ABBA EBAN CALLING FOR AN END TO THE HAK STEP-BY-STEP APPROACH AND A RETURN TO THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE.

HE AND OTHERS HAVE CONTENDED THAT ISRAEL IS UNLIKELY TO GAIN SUFFICIENT POLITICAL CONCESSIONS FROM EGYPT FOR THE TERRITORY SHE IS BEING ASKED TO RETURN TO MAKE

FURTHER STEP-BY-STEP TALKS WORTHWHILE.

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THE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT, HOWEVER, ENDORSED THE HAK APPROACH YESTERDAY.

HAK TOOK NOTE OF THE POLITICAL DEBATE IN ISRAEL WHEN HE SAID UPON ARRIVING AT BEN-GURION INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AMID A COLD RAIN THAT THE U.S., WHILE WELCOMING ISRAEL'S FORMAL ACCEPTANCE OF FURTHER STEP-BY-STEP TALKS, WAS "NOT TIED TO IT"

HAK DID NOT DISCLOSE TO THE REPORTERS ON THE PLANE DETAILS OF THE "IDEAS" HE HAD RECEIVED FROM EGYPT AND ISRAEL.

BUT THEY ARE KNOWN TO INCLUDE ISRAEL'S INSISTENCE ON RECEIVING A LONG-TERM NONAGGRESSION COMMITTMENT FROM EGYPT AS WELL AS SOME EASING OF EGYPT'S DIPLOMATIC AND ECONOMIC BOYCOTT OF ISRAEL.

THE EGYPTIANS HAVE INDICATED THAT THEY WANT THE RETURN OF A SUBSTANTIAL AMOUNT OF TERRITORY IN SINAI, INCLUDING, IN PARTICULAR, THE STRATEGIC PASSES OF MITLA AND GIDI AND THE OILFIELD OF ABU RUDEIS.

REPORTERS WERE TOLD THAT THE DILEMMA FACING HAK WAS IN TRYING TO RECONCILE ISRAEL'S DESIRE FOR A WRITTEN COMMITTMENT FROM EGYPT FOR THREE OR MORE YEARS OF PEACE WITH THE PROBLEM FACING SADAT IN TAKING SUCH A STEP BEFORE THE ARABS HAD RECOVERED ALL THE LAND LOST TO ISRAEL IN THE 1967 WAR.

AMERICAN OFFICIALS BELIEVE THAT SADAT MIGHT BE ABLE TO GUARANTEE ISRAEL A LONG-TERM PEACE WITHOUT ACTUALLY PUTTING A COMMITTMENT ON PAPER...

HAK IS BELIEVED TO BE SEEKING TO CONVINCE THE ISRAELIS THAT HE CAN ACHIEVE FOR THEM THE ESSENTIALS" OF THEIR

DEMANDS ALTHOUGH NOT NECESSARILY IN THE FORM THEY WANT. END NYTIMES TEXT.

2. WASHPOST-BERGER-PG ONE-3-COLUMN AP PIC HAK & ALLON AIRPORT ARRIVAL - LEAD: HAK ARRIVES ISRAEL - SUB SEEKS UNCLASSIFIED

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FURTHER WITHDRAWL IN SINAI - EXCERPTS OF TEXT: HAK
ARRIVED HERE TODAY TO SOUND ISRAEL OUT ON PROSPECTS FOR A
WITHDRAWAL IN THE SINAI PENINSULA-PART OF HIS EFFORT TO
CONVINCE ISRAEL AND EGYPT THAT ACCEPTANCE OF A DEAL THAT
SATISFIES NEITHER SIDE COMPLETELY WOULD BE LESS DANGEROUS

THAN FAILURE TO REACH ANY AGREEMENT AT ALL...

HAK WAS RELATIVELY OPTIMISTIC THAT THE TASK COULD BE ACCOMPLISHED DURING THE NEXT MONTH, ISREALIS-OFFICIALS AND ORDINARY CITIZENS ALIKE-WERE TAKING A TOUGH LINE.

THE GENERAL FEELING IN JERUSALEM SEEMED TO BE THAT IF HAK HAS ANY CAUSE FOR OPTIMISM IT MUST BE THAT HE HAS SOME INDICATION THAT HAS NOT ET BEEN MADE EVIDENT OF EGYPTIAN WILLINGNESS TO MAKE POLITICAL CONCESSIONS TO ISRAEL ...

TALKS WITH OFFICIALS AND KNOWLEDGABLE SOURCES HERE SUGGEST THAT ISRAEL WILL BE MUCH MORE RELUCTANT TO GIVE UP THE SINAI PASSES THAN THE OIL WELLS AT ABU RUDEIS.

IT HAS BEEN REPORTED FROM EGYPT, HOWEVER, THAT THE OIL WELLS WOULD BE THE MAJOR STUMBLING BLOCK. ISRAELIS ARE EXPRESSING READINESS TO GIVE UP THE OIL WELLS, PROVIDED THAT EGYPT AGREES TO SELL THE OIL TO ISRAEL - A MOVE THAT WOULD SERVE AS EVIDENCE THAT EGYPT WAS LOOSENING ITS ECONOMIC BOYCOTT. EGYPTIAN OFFICIALS HAVE TENDED TO DISMISS THIS POSSIBILITY OUT OF HAND.

THE STRATEGIC SINAI PASSESHAVE TAKEN ON MAJOR IMPORTANCE. ABOUT TWO WEEKS AGO, THE ENTIRE ISRAELI CABINET WENT FOR AN INSPECTION TOUR OF THE PASSES, AS DID THE MEMBERS OF THE ISRAELI PARLIAMENTARY FOREIGN AND DEFENSE COMMITTEES...

RABIN HAS SAID OVER THE PAST WEEK THAT IF SADAT WOULD PUT IN WRITING THE STATEMENT HE MADE IN PARIS - THAT EGYPT WOULD NOT INVADE ISRAEL - THE SINAI PASSES WOULD BE RETURNED. IT IS EXTREMELY DIFFICULT, HOWEVER, FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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SADAT TO MAKE ANY FORMAL AGREEMENTS, THAT COULD BE CONSTRUED BY OTHER ATAB STATES AS A SEPARATE PEACE.

KISSINGER'S POSITION IS THAT ISRAEL CANNOT MAKE FURTHER WITHDRAWALS WITHOUT GETTING SOMETHING IN RETURN. BUT, IT IS BEING ASKED ABOARD THE KISSINGER PLANE, DOES ISRAEL GET THE LONG-TERM ASSURANCES IT WANTS BY A LEGAL DOCUMENT, OR BY CREATING THE CONDITIONS AND INCENTIVES CONDUCIVE TO A MAXIMUM PERIOD OF RESTRAINT?

EVEN A WRITTEN DOCUMENT, IT IS SAID, CANNOT BIND SUCCESSOR GOVERNMENTS OR BE RELIED ON IF NEW CONDITIONS PRODUCE CONFLICT. NO COUNTRY, IT IS ARGUED ON THE KISSINGER PLANE, CAN COMMIT ITSELF NEVER TO GO TO WAR.

ISRAELI OFFICIALS SAY THAT, IF EGYPT IS PREPARED TO MAKE REAL POLITICAL CONCESSIONS, A WAY CAN BE FOUND TO EXPRESS THEM TO THE SATISFACTION OF BOTH SIDES.

"HOW CAN ANYONE GET UP IN THE KNESSET (PARLIAMENT) AND SAY HE GAVE UP SOMETHING FOR NOTHING?" ASKED ONE ISRAELI TODAY. "IT WOULD MEAN THE FALL OF THE GOVERNMENT."

SOME ISRAELIS EXPECT HAK TO USE THAT LINE OF REASONING WITH SADAT, THAT UNLESS HE DEALS WITH THE MODERATE RABIN GOVERNMENT, A MORE HARDLINE ISRAELI GOVERNMENT WILL TAKE ITS PLACE.

HAK'S ARGUMENT IS THAT ISRAEL COULD ATTEMPT TO BUY TIME, BUT CANNOT DEPEND ON A PERMANENT STALEMATE. WHILE THE ARABS ARE CONSIDERED TOO WEAL MILITARILY TO REGAIN THEIR TERRITORY BY FORCE, THEY NEVERTHELESS HAVE THE CAPACITY TO CREATE WORLD CHAOS WITH MASSIVE SHIFTS OF THEIR LARGE CURRENCY RESERVES, BY THREATENING OR IMPOSING AN OIL EMBARGO OR EVEN BY GOING TO WAR. ANY OF THESE ARAB MOVES COULD BRING RENEWED DEMANDS FROM WESTERN EUROPE AND JAPAN FOR A QUICK ME SETTLEMENT, FURTHER ISOLATING ISRAEL.

THIS VERY SENCE OF ACTUAL OR POTENTIAL ISOLATION INTENSIFIES THE ISRAELI DESIRE TO HOLD ON TO AS MUCH UNCLASSIFIED

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TERRITORY AS POSSIBLE.

WHATEVER THE OUTCOME, THE NEXT PHASE AFTER THE CURRENT

EXERCISE IN KISSINGER SHUTTLE DIPLOMACY IS EXPECTED TO BE AT A FULLFLEDGED PEACE CONFERENCE IN GENEVA. THE CONTENTION ABOARD KISSINGER'S PLANE IS THAT IT IS IMPORTANT HOW THE PARTIES RETURN TO GENEVA... END BERGER EXCERPTS.

3. NYDAILY NEWS - CARTER - PAGE 2 - 2-COLUMN UPI PIC HAK AND ALLON AIRPORT ARRIVAL . LEAD - ISRAELIS GIVEN HENRY'S VOW OF FRIENDSHIP. BEGIN TEXT; HAK PROMISED THE ISRAELIS TONIGHT, "WHATEVER WE DO WILL BE IN A SPIRIT OF FRIENDSHIP -- AND WITH THE ATTITUDE THAT THE SURVIVAL AND SECURITY OF ISRAEL ARE A BASIC AMERICAN CONCERN." HAK FLEW TO THE MIDEAST ON WHAT HE DESCRIBED AS AN "EXPLORATORY TRIP" TO SOUND OUT THE ISRAELIS AND EGYPTIANS ABOUT PROSPECTS FOR A SECOND-STAGE DISENGAGEMENT AGREEMENT I IN THE SINAI PENINSULA...

HAK SAID ON HIS ARRIVAL IN JERUSALEM THAT BOTH ISRAEL AND THE UNITED STATES AGREED THAT THE KIND OF STEP-BY-STEP PEACEMAKING HE HAS PUSHED IS THE MOST PROMISING PATH. BUT HE SAID THAT THE UNITED STATES WAS NOT TIED ONLY TO THE ONE FORUM.

A HIGH AMERICAN OFFICIAL ON HAK'S PLANE INDICATED THAT THE GENEVA PEACE CONFERENCE, WHICH MET FOR THREE DAYS IN DECEMBER 1973, WAS LIKELY TO BE RECONVENED IN APRIL. BUT IT WAS UNDERSTOOD THAT HAK HOPED THAT THE EGYPTIANS AND ISRAELIS WOULD REACH AGREEMENT FIRST ON A NEW PACT FOR A FURTHER ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IN THE SINAI.

HAK DOES NOT EXPECT TO OBTAIN THAT AGREEMENT ON THIS TRIP, BUT HE HOPES TO BE ABLE TO WRAP IT UP ON ANOTHER TRIP TO THE MIDEAST IN MID-MARCH. HIGH OFFICIAL PLACED THE CHANCES OF DOING THIS AT 50-50...

ON HIS WAY HERE, KISSINGER SAID, "WE HAVE NO FORMAL PROPOSALS FROM EITHER SIDE, BUT I HAVE IDEAS FROM EGYPT AND I HAVE IDEAS FROM ISRAEL. I AM HERE TO DISCUSS THESE UNCLASSIFIED

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IDEAS."

AT A DINNER MEETING TONIGHT WITH RABIN AND OTHER TOP ISRAELI OFFICIALS, HAK WAS UNDERSTOOD TO HAVE SAID THAT WHILE GOING BACK TO GENEVA IN AN ATMOSPHERE OF FRUSTRATION WOULD MEAN A STALEMATE, GOING BACK WITH MODERATES IN COMMAND OF THE ARAB SIDE MIGHT BE A GOOD THING.

THE IMPLICATION WAS THAT THE ISRAELIS SHOULD ENCOURAGE THE MODERATES BY MAKING AN AGREEMENT WITH SADAT FOR TERRITORY

IN THE SINAI. BUT THE OFFICIAL ON HAK'S PLANE EXPRESSED BELIEF THAT THE EGYPTIANS WOULD HAVE TO GIVE ISRAEL SOMETHING IN RETURN, EVEN THOUGH IT MIGHT BE INTANGIBLE.

THE ISRAELIS WERE REPORTED TO HAVE ASKED HAK THESE THREE QUESTIONS: WOULD THE SECOND-STAGE AGREEMENT WITH EGYPT STAND ON ITS OWN? WOULD IT BE TIED TO AN AGREEMENT WITH

ANY OTHER ARAB COUNTRY? WHAT DO THE EGYPTIANS WANT, AND WHAT WILL ISRAEL GET IN RETURN?...

OFFICIALS ON KISSINGER'S PLANE SAID THAT THEY HAVE "HEARD NOISES FROM THE SYRIANS" THAT THEY ALSO MIGHT BE WILLING TO MAKE ANOTHER INTERIM STEP TOWARD PEACE BEFORE RETURNING TO THE GENEVA CONVERENCE...

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: OVIP, (KISSINGER, HENRY A)

To: JERUSALEM

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